

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1773, March 14, 1953

NEW REALISM FOR FILMS

3-D may mean the end of the flat cinema screen

Faced with growing competition from television, the cinema industry is in the throes of a crisis which it hopes to surmount by means of three-dimensional (3-D) films.

More than one system has been promised for early exhibition in Britain, and it is being confidently predicted that "talkies" as we know them will be replaced by the so-called "deepies," as they themselves replaced the old silent "movies" just over 20 years ago.

The various methods which will bring about this revolution are here discussed by a scientific correspondent.

OUT-OF-THE-ORDINARY

A CANADIAN whose house is astride the Canada-U.S. frontier used to keep his parrot in the drawing-room—which is in the United States. Then he was told that it is forbidden to import parrots into the U.S.A., and he was obliged to move Polly into the kitchen—back into Canada.

ANOTHER Canadian died recently in a hovel at the age of 104, asphyxiated by an escape of gas from a worn-out stove that he had obstinately refused to have mended. He was the owner of property worth over £200,000.

POPULAR with young people is a café in New York where a train drawn by a model locomotive runs on lines along the counter to carry dishes to the customer. It is worked by electricity and stops in front of each person.

A NEWLY-INVENTED machine can completely destroy about 250,000 £1 notes in a day. It is to be used by the British Bank of West Africa at Freetown for the destruction of dirty and worn-out currency notes. The money-destructor reduces the notes to ashes.

FIVE-YEAR-OLD'S 15-POUNDER

Fishing with very light tackle in Grantham Canal at Muston, Leicestershire, five-year-old Geoffrey Mott caught a 5-lb. pike.

Highly delighted, he cast out his line again and hooked a much bigger pike. After an exciting struggle, and with the help of the water bailiff, Geoffrey finally managed to bring it to the bank. It was three feet long and weighed 15 lbs.

CHIEF ROUNDHEAD'S HAT

What size in hats did Oliver Cromwell take?

The answer was given in a television programme on Temple Newsam, the famous house at Leeds. The exhibits included a hat once owned by Oliver Cromwell, and having tried it on, the two men in the programme decided that the Protector took size 7½.

THERE are about half-a-dozen different systems of producing stereoscopic motion pictures, and one or two others which are not strictly stereoscopic but create very much the same impression.

Stereoscopic movies in themselves are by no means new, for nearly 30 years ago an experimental 3-D film was shown. A specially-constructed cinema in Moscow has been showing them for a good many years; and other examples have been demonstrated both here and in America since the war.

TWO PICTURES

The main difference between a flat picture and the impression of the same scene recorded by our eyes is that we actually see two slightly different pictures, as our eyes are spaced apart from one another.

The combined mental picture, as translated by the brain, gives the impression of all the objects in the picture standing out in depth. Looking at a flat print or a picture projected onto a flat screen, this impression of depth is lacking. Thus a picture which does appear to stand out in depth must be more realistic.

The usual method of producing films which give an effect of depth and roundness is to use two cameras, spaced apart like a pair of human eyes, and to make two separate films of the scene. Later, in the theatre, these two films are run through synchronised projectors to superimpose two images on the screen.

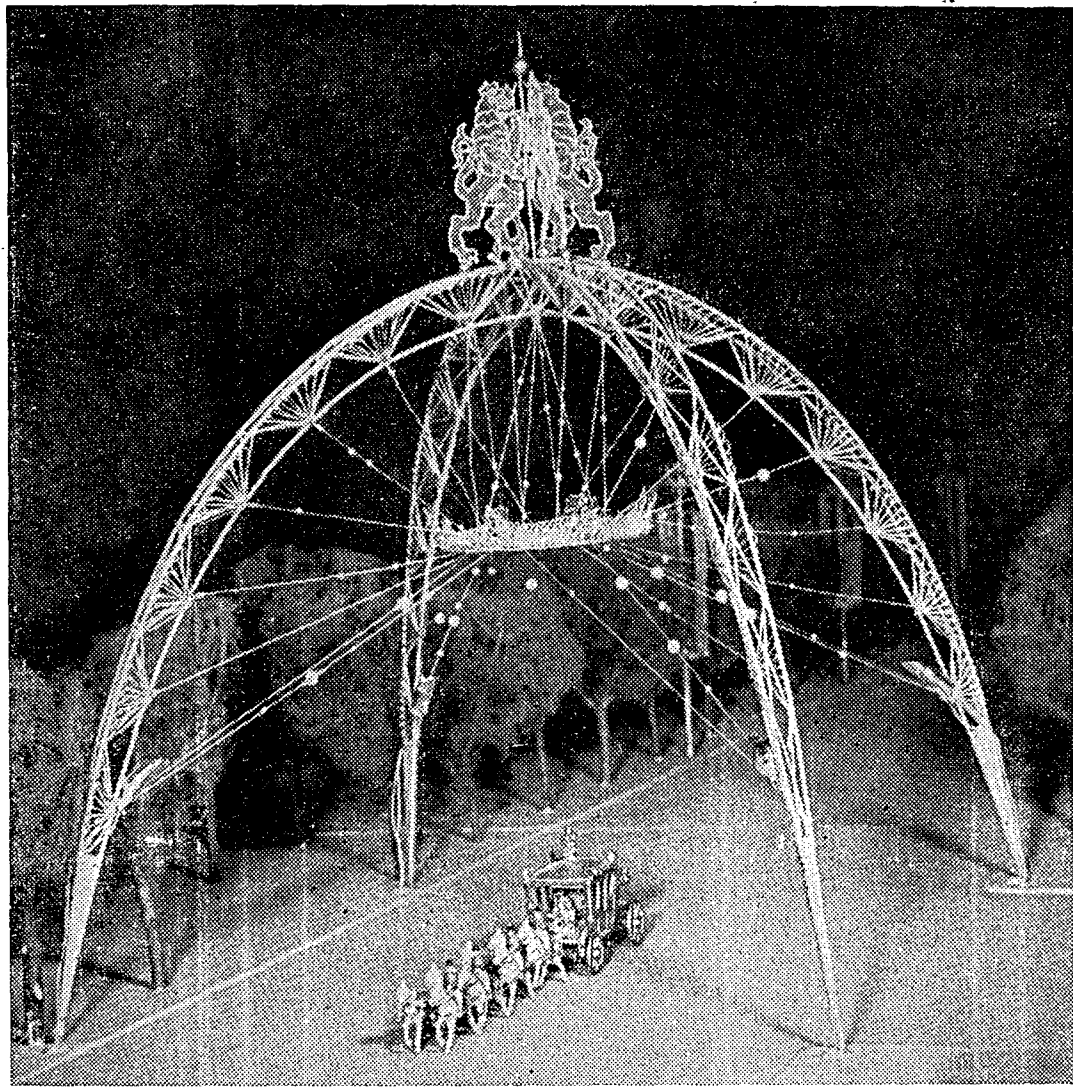
LEFT AND RIGHT

If the "left eye" view is shown in red, say, and the "right eye" view in the complementary colour blue-green, and the viewer then wears a pair of spectacles with red and blue-green glasses, he will get a true stereoscopic mental picture in one colour.

That is the basis of most of the 3-D films. But instead of coloured images and tinted lenses, what is known as polarised light can be used, the spectacles being fitted with polarising lenses to separate the respective images. Thus it may become possible to produce pictures in natural colours as well as natural depth and roundness.

Continued in the next column

For the Queen's great day



A model of one of the four Coronation arches, surmounted by lions and unicorns, which are to be erected along the Mall.

Most of the 3-D systems already demonstrated, and the new ones coming along, work on that principle. Some are more complicated than others, and so the most popular one, as far as the cinema owners are concerned, is likely to be the system which costs least to install.

Most require special screens to get the best effect and all require the audience to wear special glasses. Synchronised projectors will also have to be installed.

At least one system, however, uses a single filmstrip and a single projector which is specially designed to separate the left and right pictures before they reach the screen.

There are methods of eliminating the necessity for the audience to wear spectacles. They require, however, special screens and a sort of a lattice grid in front of the screen to blank off the images each eye should not see.

Unfortunately the exact position of each member of the audience relative to the screen then becomes critical. If normal seating were used, half the audience would see a true stereoscopic picture and the other half a picture with the stereo-

Continued on page 2

NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Shooty, a four-year-old cat, arrived back at Windermere after walking 120 miles from its new home at Sandbach, Cheshire.

It had been taken to Sandbach by car, but after three days it disappeared. Nothing was heard of it till it was found outside its former home.

TEA TOTAL

America is now the second largest tea-consuming country in the world, with Britain occupying first place.

The average American consumes two-thirds of a pound of tea per year compared with the Briton's average of eight pounds in a year.

LABOUR OF LOVE

Building their own tuckshop is the very pleasurable task of the boys of Ashmead School, Reading, who are training to be builders.

Their plans have been checked and passed by the borough architect, and work is well under way.

SHELTIES ARE FLOURISHING

More than 400 Shetland ponies have been exported from Scotland to the United States during the last five years, and the demand is increasing.

The Department of Agriculture for Scotland have been encouraging the breeding of Scottish ponies, and are giving financial assistance to raise the standard of the pony and maintain one of the biggest studs in the country at Inverness.

The origin of the "Sheltie" is shrouded in antiquity. In 1568 someone described them as being "no bigger than asses, but very strong and enduring."

The Shetland is almost the only breed of horse in the country free from Arab blood. His small size has helped him to thrive in or near Arctic conditions.

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BRITAIN HAS STATED HER CASE IN WASHINGTON

By the C. N. Diplomatic Correspondent

MR. ANTHONY EDEN'S visit to the United States and his conversations there with leaders of the new American Government will undoubtedly affect the policies of countries all over the world during the coming weeks.

In company with Mr. R. A. Butler, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, our Foreign Secretary and Deputy Prime Minister took with him the instructions of the British Cabinet on their views of a variety of world problems.

Mr. Eden's responsibilities, however, did not end there; he was Chairman of the Commonwealth Economic Conference which met in London at the end of last year, and an important part of his task in America has been to explain the plans of the Prime Ministers at that conference—plans for re-establishing the Commonwealth countries' trading and financial position.

Some of these plans call for significant adjustments in the way

the Commonwealth tackle exporting, importing, and development problems.

In talking to Mr. John Foster Dulles, the crisp and friendly Secretary of State, as well as to other American Ministers, Mr. Eden must have felt occasionally that he was more like a delegation of five or six persons, although naturally an important share of the work has been undertaken by Mr. Butler and a team of expert advisers.

It was of the utmost importance for America to know our economic intentions at first-hand. Her own trading and development interests could not be left out of consideration in such large-scale plans.

OPERATION RECOVERY

Later this month there will be a special meeting of the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation to hear about these proposals, and to learn what President Eisenhower and his Cabinet thought about them. At Coronation time, when the Commonwealth Ministers meet again in London, the plans will be further developed into what might be called Operation Recovery for the Sterling Area.

In addition to all these matters, Mr. Eden is aware that statesmen of each Party in Britain have been anxious about the defence affairs of Western Europe. The French Prime Minister and his Foreign Secretary came to London a few weeks ago for the purpose of putting their own proposals. So the British Government has been speaking with our American friends in the light of these discussions, too.

Bearing on all these topics, and heightening their importance, is the need for close co-operation between Britain and America, for mutual trust which makes for complete confidence between allies.

AMERICA'S NEED

President Eisenhower has acknowledged America's own need for the development of this trust. "No single country, even as powerful as ourselves," he has said, "can alone defend the liberty of all nations threatened by Communist aggression from without or subversion within."

The President has been looking for new ways of overcoming the stalemate armistice negotiations in Korea, and there are still hopes of an eventual meeting with Mr. Stalin.

There is also evidence that the foreign policy of the United States is much less provocative and risky than was supposed by politicians in this country a short time ago.

With all the possibilities of a further step towards real peace in the world, and bearing in mind the dangers of disunited action, the mission of Mr. Eden and Mr. Butler to America may truly be regarded as of the highest importance.



By the C. N. Press Gallery Correspondent

WHAT (we said to ourselves) does "counterpart aid" mean? For our eye had alighted upon a white paper headed "Arrangements for the expenditure of Counterpart Funds derived from United States Economic Aid under Section 9 (c) of the Mutual Security Act of 1952."

Several people who should know looked at us pityingly. To live in the 20th century and not know what Counterpart Aid means! In the end we simply had to go to Whitehall. A gentleman there said:

"The Americans under the Mutual Aid Programme give us dollars. We spend them on what is called General Procurement, which means essential things we need. We then sell those things and get sterling in exchange. Hence Sterling Counterpart. Hence Counterpart Aid."

And we went on our way rejoicing.

WE have been looking carefully at the paper on which this column is printed. It is called newsprint. We had some very trying experiences with it during the war when, if it got wet, it swelled to a great size.

That was because of the amount of wastepaper used, with virgin pulp, in its manufacture. Sir Arthur Salter, the Minister of Materials, says in those days the wastepaper content of newsprint was as high as 22½ per cent.

Now it is down to about 5 per cent. But we still need wastepaper for our own use so that we may make better-class paper for export for precious dollars. So please do not burn us.

M.P. No. 1: It is without any doubt at all the most revolutionary Bill which has been introduced in the House for many years.

M.P. No. 2: I regard this Bill as the most unwanted Bill that this House of Commons has had before it for many years.

(Explanatory Note: They were referring to the same Bill.)

THE great John Dalton, the scientist, called himself a Liberal Conservative in politics. According to Viscount Samuel, his biographer defined this as follows:

A Liberal Conservative is a man who thinks that things ought to progress, but who would rather they remained as they are.

DEFINITION: I am bound to say that I am fairly clear what "substantial" is, just as I am fairly clear what an elephant is when I meet one. But I find it more difficult to define the word.—Mr. Toby Low, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Supply.

DON'T-YOU-KNOW DEPARTMENT: That the average length of time for a front-bench speech in the Commons is about an hour, and that backbenchers work to a rough general ration of about 20 minutes.

News from Everywhere

CHIEF RANGER

Princess Margaret has succeeded the Queen as Chief Ranger of the Girl Guides, the Queen becoming Patron of the Association. Princess Margaret was Commodore of the Sea Ranger Section for four years. She has been a keen Sea Ranger herself, taking part in all S.R. activities, including a course in seamanship in a training ship.

Uranium has been found three feet below the surface in Australia's Northern Territory.

One of London's busiest Underground stations, Charing Cross, has won a proficiency shield for the second year in succession.

A pigeon which disappeared on a flight six years ago has returned to its loft at Bloemfontein, South Africa.

Television licences in Britain now number more than two million.

SWIM AMONG SHARKS

The skipper of a disabled ketch off the north-west coast of Australia swam three miles to the shore, passing close to 300 feeding sharks.

India has given 10,000 pounds of tea to flood victims in Britain.

Paris is to have a five-storey car garage with a landing-stage for helicopters on the roof.

Toppenish, Washington, hometown of Reis Leming, the American airman who won the George Medal for rescue work in the floods at Hunstanton, Norfolk, has given 750 pounds of beef to the people of Hunstanton.

Pupils of Grays County Technical School, Essex, have won the highest award in the London Chamber of Commerce examination for four years running.

QUICK WAY DOWN

Sauro Rinaldi, an Italian parachutist, claims a world record for dropping 26,000 feet in 2 minutes 58 seconds before opening his parachute.

M. Edmond Mathis, mayor of the French village of Ehuns, who recently celebrated his 101st birthday, has held office for 75 years.

A man named Robin Hood was third in the New Zealand archery championship.

More babies were born in Canada in 1951 than during any previous year; there were 380,101 new arrivals, nearly 10,000 more than the previous record year, 1947.

BACK AT LAST

A book of sermons has been returned to the Bodleian Library at Oxford after being missing for some 300 years. Discovered by a dealer who bought it as part of a private collection, the book still bore its original library-shelf mark on the title page.

Workmen building a new railway line in Rhodesia take their houses with them as they move along. The houses have been specially designed for easy transportation and quick assembly.

Music and drama will be provided in the park of Versailles during the summer to raise funds for the restoration of the palace.

GOOD OLD DAYS

Police were called to control the queues at Dunfermline when a fishmonger and fruiterer celebrated his 18th anniversary in the business by selling his goods at pre-war prices—kippers 3d. a pair, herrings 1d. and oranges 1½d.

Automatic chocolate and sweet machines, with slots for 2d., 3d., and 6d., will be working again in London Underground stations soon.

A school just opened at Frecheville, Sheffield, was completed in five months nine days—less than half the usual time for building similar schools.

Stray goats were auctioned for a penny each at De Aar, South Africa.

BATTLE OF BANNOCKBURN

In the recent article on the Battle of Bannockburn, the C. N. slipped badly in, saying that the English army was led by Edward the First. We should, of course, have said Edward the Second.

A six-foot marine creature washed ashore at Lobito, in Angola, had never before been seen by any of the local fishermen. Weighing nearly a ton, it had no scales, no tail, and eyes that were larger than its mouth.

Dr. Marcolino Gomez Candau of Brazil has become Director-General of the World Health Organisation in succession to Dr. Brock Chisholm of Canada, who retired recently.

Dr. BARNARDO'S HOMES

Not Nationalised—Still Dependent on Voluntary Gifts and Legacies.

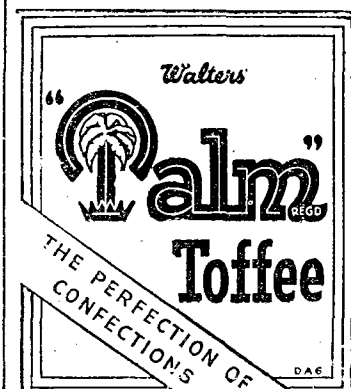


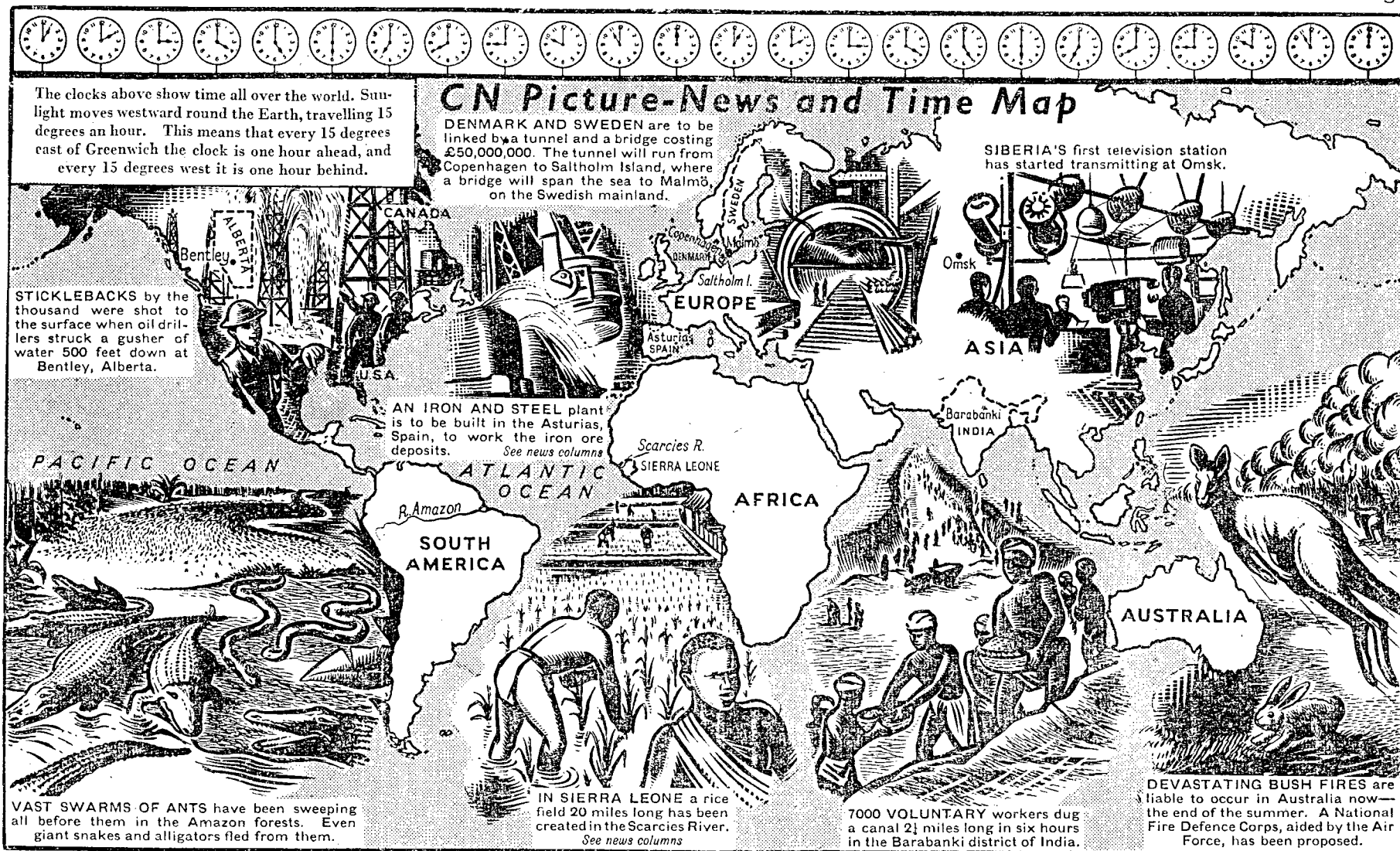
About 7,000 children in our care are enjoying happy family life and, when the time arrives, will be assured of sound vocational training to fit them for worthwhile careers.

Your help by Gift will be warmly welcomed.

10/- would help to buy our children's food.

Cheques, etc. (crossed), payable "Dr. Barnardo's Homes," should be sent to 8 Barnardo House, Stepney Causeway, London, E.1.





ABORIGINE ART SECRETS

In a tiny cluttered office behind the Adelaide Museum, Wati Chilpa (Grey Head) is writing a book about the people who gave him that name.

Those people are the Aborigines of Arnhem Land; the man is Charles Mountford, world-famous ethnologist, lecturer, writer, and film-maker.

Mr. Mountford is one of the few men ever entrusted with the secrets of legends illustrated by the cave drawings of inland Aboriginal tribes.

This book, which will contain hundreds of drawings of Mr. Mountford's wanderings around Arnhem Land, will embody his observations as leader of the National Geographical Society's American-Australian expedition to Arnhem Land in 1948.

SCHOOL'S 800 YEARS

When Nicholas Breakspere visited Norway, he founded the Cathedral School in Oslo. That was in 1153, and at recent birthday celebrations a pageant was held depicting events in the 800 years of the school's existence.

Nic. olas Breakspere was the only Englishman ever to become Pope; he took the name of Adrian IV following his election in 1154.

CARUSO'S JEWELS

Among the jewels set in the stem of a chalice given to Georgetown University, Washington, are diamonds and amethysts from the cuff links of Enrico Caruso, the great tenor.

SPAIN BUYS BRITISH

British firms, in competition with French, German, and Swiss companies, have secured contracts for the supply of more than £10,000,000 worth of equipment to a new iron and steel plant to be built at Avilés, in the Asturias, Northern Spain.

The equipment includes an ore preparation plant, a blast furnace, a hot-metal mixer and open hearth steel-making plant, rolling mills, and electrical machinery.

Some of the equipment will be built in Spain, and the sterling earnings will be about £6,000,000.

There are large unworked iron ore deposits in the Avilés area, and the new works will eventually help to produce 1,650,000 tons of steel a year—double Spain's present output. See World Map

MARIONETTE THEATRE FOR LONDON

Puppets are a delight to young people of all ages, and it is good news that London now has its own permanent puppet theatre.

Called the London Marionette Theatre, it has just begun to present shows twice a week at the New Torch Theatre in Knightsbridge.

The venture was decided on because of the success there of the first all-puppet pantomime, Cinderella, described in the CN last December. Now the country's leading puppet companies will give plays, fantasies, and varieties at the New Torch.

FARAWAY LONDON

The distance of London from many places in Scotland is stressed by the Scottish Saltire Society in a memorandum to the Royal Commission on Scottish Affairs.

It points out that Cologne is nearer to London than is Edinburgh; London is as far from Strasbourg as from Aberdeen; Geneva is as near London as Inverness is; London is as far from Genoa as from the Shetland Isles.

These distances, continues the report, are all reckoned as the crow flies. Owing to unbridged inlets on the Scottish coast, "the actual time taken in travelling from London to the Scottish places mentioned will generally be longer than to the Continental places."

Cycling to Australia



Mr. John Lee-Warner has set out from London to ride to Sydney on his auto-cycle. A former Commando officer, he is making the journey to be married, and is here seen pointing out the route he will follow.

CHURCH WITHOUT A PARSON

Stormy weather often forces Scottish fishermen to shelter in the lee of the tiny Hebridean island of Canna, and if it should be on a Sunday they go ashore to attend the little church.

As there is no minister, the fishermen hold Services among themselves and always leave a collection to be gathered later and sent to the Church authorities.

With Eigg, Rhum, and Muck, the island of Canna forms the ocean parish of the Small Isles, off the west coast of Inverness-shire. It has been without a minister since 1945, but the stringent rule decreeing that he must be a Gaelic speaker has been altered to "Gaelic desirable but not essential."

As tours of the parish must be taken by motor boat, the new minister will need to be a good sailor, especially in winter.

HIS PET GULL

While holidaying in Devon last June, a 14-year-old Worthing schoolboy named Roger Dean found a badly-injured young herring gull.

One of its wings had to be amputated, but the bird was gradually nursed back to health, and although it will never be able to fly again it is quite contented and happy at Roger's home. It is completely tame, and quite friendly with the two dogs of the household.

It lives in a converted rabbit hutch and has three meals a day of herrings or sprats.

RIVER OF RICE IN AFRICA

Sierra Leone is the first country in the world to have a river of rice 20 miles long.

It is part of the Scarcies River, and has been created by clearing 20 miles of river bed of thick mangrove swamps to give 30,000 new acres of the watery land in which rice thrives.

Up and down the Scarcies River sailing boats still carry the rice crops to Freetown, though motor boats are gradually replacing them. The rice harvest is still gathered in by hand.

A Sierra Leonian feels that he has been starved if he goes two days without rice, whatever else he may have eaten. See World Map

SUFFOLK CHOIR ON THE AIR

On Sunday, March 15, a service is to be broadcast from the beautiful old Parish Church at Beccles, on the North Suffolk border. It will be heard on the Midland Home Service.

The choir of this church is second to none in a wide surrounding district. Only a few days before the announcement it went for the first time to the Norfolk Music Festival in Norwich and came first in three sections.

This was the result of the efforts of Mr. John Hammond, the organist and choirmaster, who is now busily training the choir in the hope of an even finer performance for the benefit of the huge audience provided by the BBC.

BIGGEST DOG IN THE WORLD?

Consul, the five-year-old Great Dane in our picture, weighs nearly 17 stone. He is just an inch over three feet tall to his shoulder, and measures six feet eight inches from nose to tail!

He belongs to Mr. F. J. Jackson, of Cleveland, near Johannesburg, and is believed to be the biggest dog in the world. The only other approaching him in size that Mr. Jackson has heard of is a Belgian dog weighing 14 stone 6 lbs.



Consul and friend

Yet mighty Consul is lucky to be alive today. He was born—one of a litter of six—in a remote part of the city of Tunis. His mother, Silvernia Seraph, was on the way

by air to South Africa in 1948, and when the plane touched down at Tunis for re-fuelling, she escaped from her box and vanished into the back streets of Tunis.

A reward of £100 was offered for the valuable animal, and some lucky Arab schoolboys found her and her pups. The Great Dane family were sent on to South Africa by the next plane.

Five of the pups were very healthy, but one looked sickly and undeveloped, and it was suggested that it should be put to sleep. However, it was spared, and grew up to be the outside Consul.

As might be expected, Consul has an appetite on a par with his size. His dinner, at 4 p.m., consists of five pounds of meat, one grated carrot, one medium-sized onion, and a tablespoonful of chopped lettuce or fresh lawn clippings. At 8 p.m. he has a nightcap of half-a-gallon of milk.

Previously he had "elevenses" of four slices of bread, butter, and marmalade, but this was cut out because he was putting on too much weight.

ARTIST ON THE FOOTPLATE

A young Ulster artist, Patrick M'Mechan, travelled on the footplate of a train between Belfast and Londonderry to make sketches of the inside of the cab, and also "to get an idea of the engine-driver's view of the countryside."

He hopes to produce at least one oil-painting from the sketches.

In the Air

By the CN Flying Correspondent

Race to N Z

SEVEN jets will compete in the gruelling 12,155-mile air race from London to Harewood Airport, New Zealand, which starts on October 8.

In the speed section Great Britain will be represented by an RAF entry of a Valiant medium bomber and three Canberra photo-reconnaissance aircraft. Other jet planes taking part are two Canberras from Australia and a Royal Danish Air Force Thunderjet.

In the Transport Handicap section, British European Airways have entered a Viscount airliner, K.L.M. a big Douglas DC-6A, the R.N.Z.A.F. a Hastings, and the Custer Channel Wing Corporation one of their remarkable U-winged aircraft, which can hover like a helicopter or shoot through the air like a conventional plane.

New jetliner

KNOWN at present by the somewhat mysterious title of Project X, Boeing's jet transport will cost well over £5,000,000. It will be available as either a transport or an aerial tanker.

It will have sharply sweptback wings, four jet engines in underwing pods, and a speed in excess of 500 m.p.h.

Winged vans

ON the new airways service between the two large towns of Libya, Tripoli and Benghazi, there is already a considerable demand for space.

In the easterly direction, freight will consist mainly of tobacco, household goods, office equipment, and sundry items which arrive at the Port of Tripoli. In the opposite direction the traffic will be mainly in fruit, vegetables, and meat, besides such everyday items as mail, vehicles, and parcels.

Government Ministers will be among those using the airline, and their files will sometimes fill a complete aircraft.

Airport problems

EXPERTS in airport construction and procedure discussed many problems of the jet age when they met at the International Civil Aviation Organisation's headquarters in Montreal.

As jet engines mounted close to the ground throw heat of some 400 to 500 degrees Fahrenheit onto the surface, there is risk of damage to airport pavements and runways. Moreover, as jet fuel evaporates more slowly than aviation spirit, it has longer in which to affect the runway when spilled upon it.

British experts pointed out that damage to the surface is avoided in the case of Comets by having the engines mounted in the wings.

As the taxi-ing of jet aircraft from loading zones to take-off points is costly in fuel, the conference considered the possibility of taking passengers by bus to a jetliner parked at the point from which it begins its take-off run.

The CN Astronomer says that this week we may have the chance of...

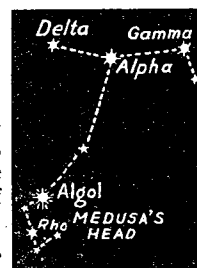
OBSERVING AN ECLIPSE OF 93 YEARS AGO

DURING the coming moonless nights the dark sky will enable us to see to advantage the grand constellation of Perseus, the knight-errant of antiquity, and the interesting behaviour of Algal, the Demon Star.

The whole area of Perseus is most impressive and brilliant, its numerous bright stars standing out against the luminous streams of the Milky Way.

The chief stars by which Perseus may be identified are indicated on the star-map, together with Algal.

If the observer faces south between 7 and 8 p.m. the stars will be seen arranged as shown, a little to the west of overhead.



Algal, which is normally bright and of about second magnitude, may be readily identified. With a few fainter stars below it, and the star Rho, this constitutes a small constellation in itself, and is known as Medusa's Head, or Caput Medusae.

A story of antiquity is associated with Algal and its position in the middle of the forehead of Medusa, the terrible gorgon of Greek mythology. (The name Algal is derived from the ancient Arabic Al-Ghul, meaning Demon or Ghoul.)

Medusa's locks were supposed to be composed of small serpents, and her appearance was so fearful that all who beheld her were turned to stone.

Perseus, however, managed to cut off the head of this feminine "Devil of the Sea," and for thousands of years has been represented in the heavens holding the head by its hair of serpents.

From early times Algal was also known as the Winking Demon, or the Winking Star, but now we

know that this steady and precise variation in its light is due to the fact that Algal is composed of two suns which alternately partially eclipse one another.

One, the central sun, is very bright, while the other, which revolves round it, is larger but radiates less light; thus a complicated variation occurs in their combined light as observed from the position of our Earth in space.

This larger body resembles rather a gigantic planet whose luminosity has died down. It is comparatively close to the brilliant central sun, the two spheres averaging only 2,174,000 miles apart.

As it revolves at an average rate of 28 miles a second, this planetary body periodically eclipses, and is eclipsed by, the central sun at regular intervals of 2 days, 20 hours, and 49 minutes.

As a result, Algal's light as observed by us declines from 2.2 magnitude to about 3.5 magnitude, the latter varying slightly with alternate eclipses.

As these eclipses take about five hours to complete, only occasionally does a good opportunity occur to observe one during the evening; moonlight needs to be avoided.

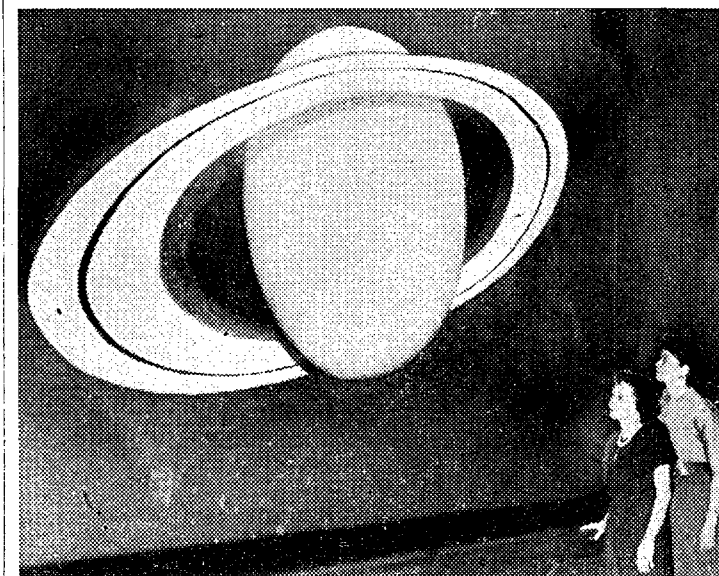
Such an opportunity occurs on the evening of March 13. If the observer looks beforehand, Algal will appear almost as bright as Alpha and much brighter than Rho, the star below Algal.

As 8 o'clock approaches it will be seen that Algal is becoming fainter, and by about 8.30 it will be scarcely brighter than Rho.

This will be about the time of the centre and greatest eclipse, after which Algal will begin to brighten up again, and by 11 p.m. it will be at its usual brilliance.

Incidentally, owing to the great distance of Algal from us, that is 5,886,000 times farther than the Sun, this event which we hope to witness actually occurred 93 years ago!

G. F. M.



Glowing planet

A fluorescent mural painting of the planet Saturn and its rings was one of several unveiled recently at the Hayden Planetarium in New York.



Blackbird
the modern
pen for better
writing

This new Blackbird really is the modern pen. Its new streamlined case, with neat flush fitting cap, easy twist filling, bigger ink capacity and famous 14 ct. gold nib not only make it look good but write better too. Get one and see for yourself.

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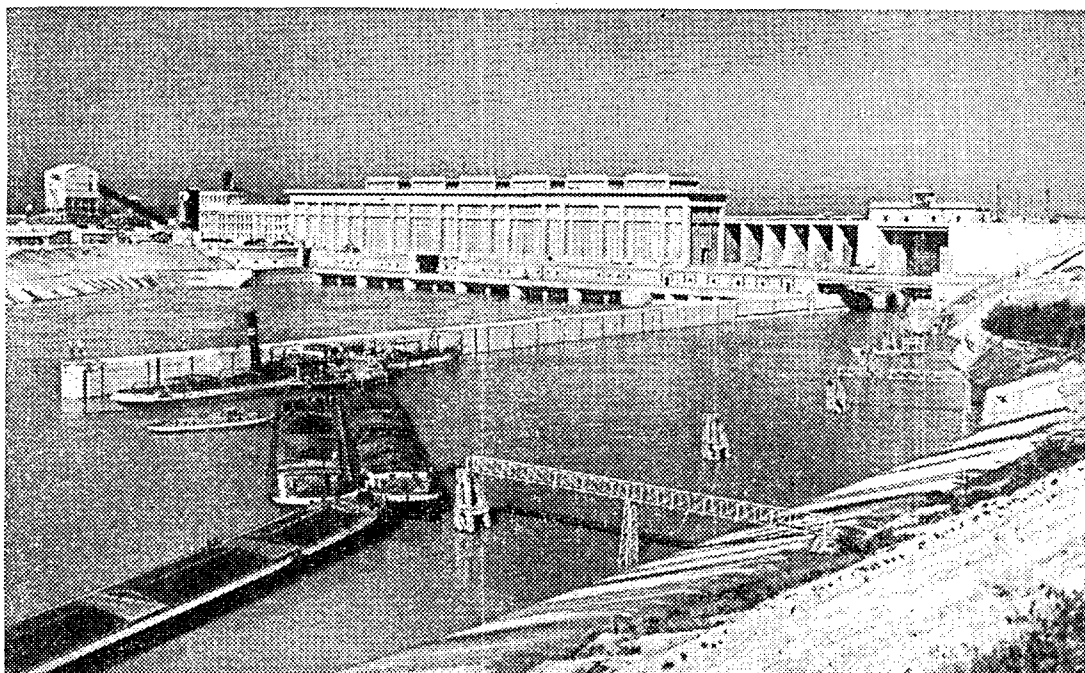
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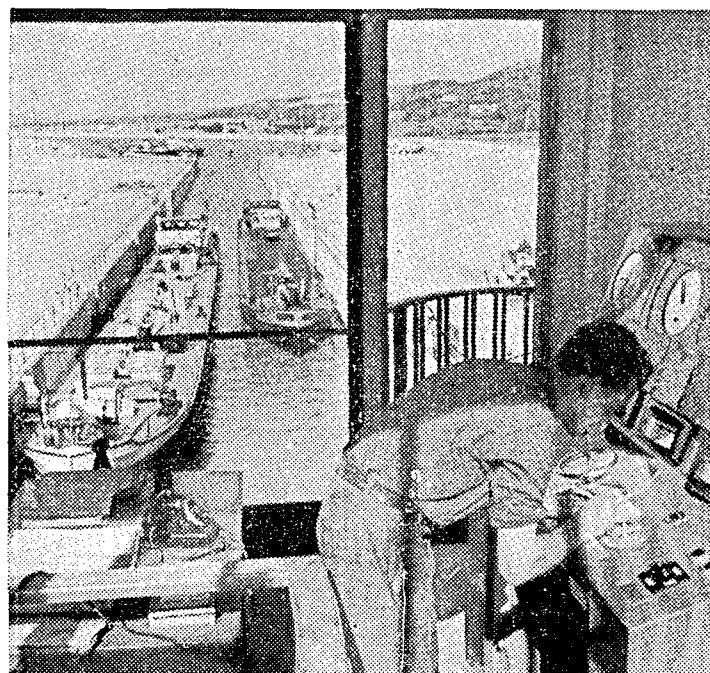
The Children's Newspaper, March 14, 1953

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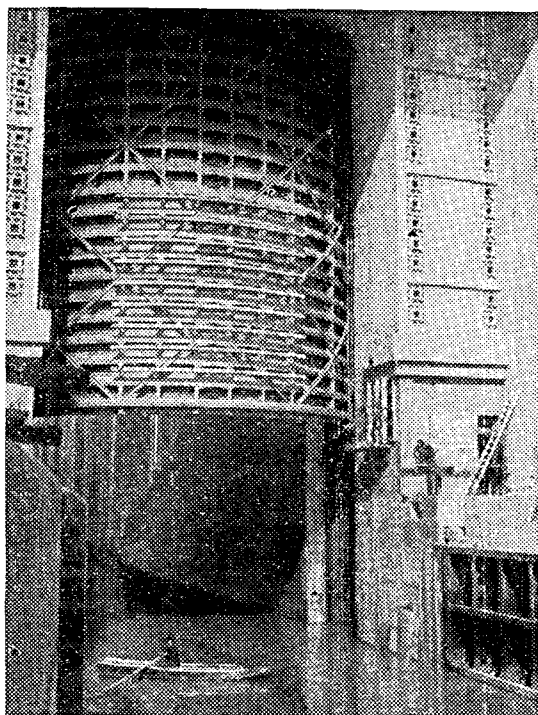
French engineers harnessing the River Rhône



A general view of the great dam and hydro-electric power station on the River Rhône at Donzère

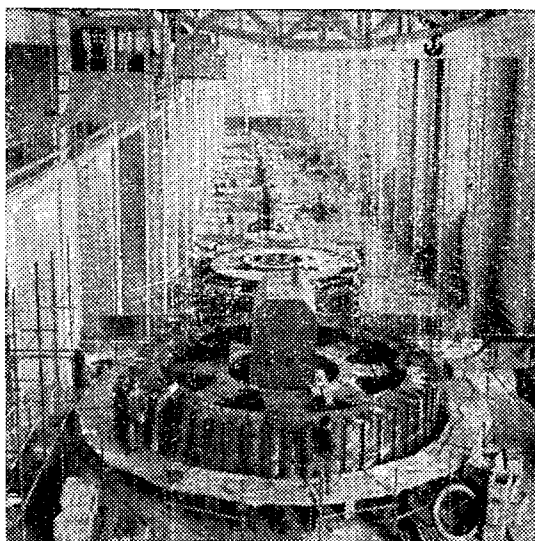


One of the lock-operators at work in his control cabin



Above: The huge gate of a lock is raised

THE charming city of Avignon at once makes us think of the popular song, *Sur le pont d'Avignon*, but today, some 20 miles north of this beautiful city, stand buildings of a very different sort from the ancient "pont" where "l'on y danse tous en rond." There is the new hydro-electric plant, dam, and canal called Donzère-Mondragon. This constitutes the greatest work of the kind ever undertaken in Western Europe, costing £120,000,000.



Right: Installing turbines and generators

This vast scheme was planned not only to provide hydro-electricity, but to increase navigation on the Rhône, which has always been difficult because of the river's swift current. Eventually it is hoped to develop the Rhône into a fine waterway from Geneva to Marseilles.

than twice that of the giant Génissiat dam up in the mountains.

To enable ships to pass the great power station, there is a lock which is the deepest in the world, having a drop of 85 feet. It is 663 feet long and 40 feet wide.

All this vast undertaking of digging and building has involved the removal of 65 million yards of cubic earth — described as "a planned geological cataclysm."

AT Donzère, "the gateway to Provence," the river flows through a narrow gorge which the old Provençal people called "the Tap of Donzère," regarding it as the border between the northern folk and the southern folk.

Here the Rhône has been diverted into a ship canal, about 17½ miles long, which runs across a plain to Mondragon. This canal is a little wider and nearly as deep as the Suez, and is the most ambitious diversion of a river undertaken anywhere in the world.

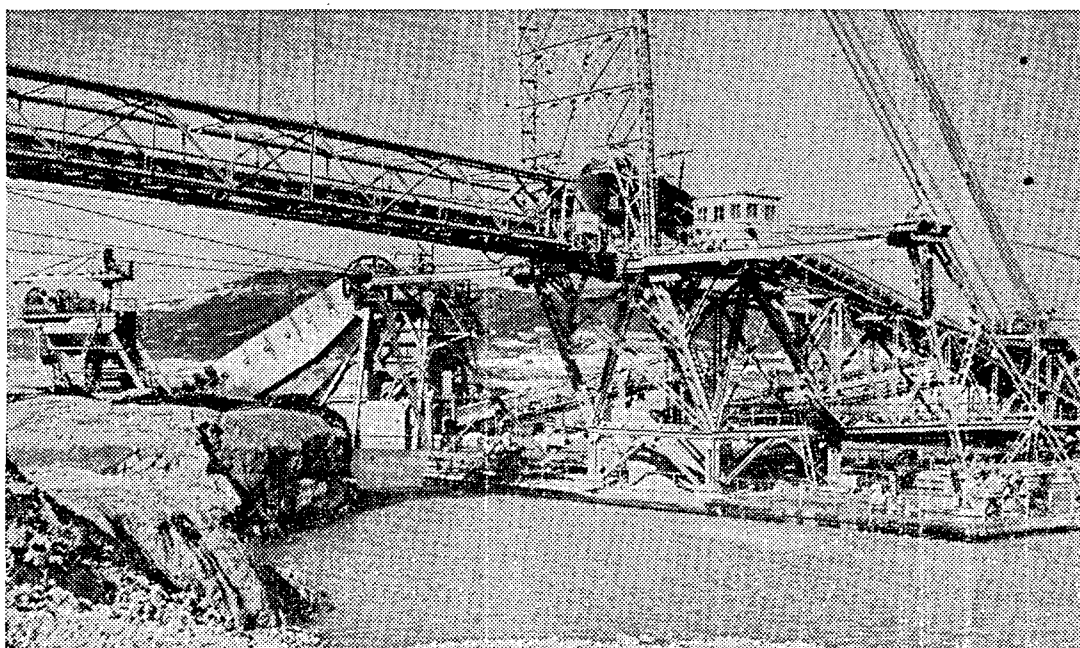
The new dam is on this canal, and its pent-up water works the turbines of the André Blondel hydro-electric plant, named after a pioneer of this project of harnessing the Rhône.

This lofty building gives one the impression of being in a cathedral, and that was its builders' nickname for it. It will produce 2000 million kilowatt hours a year, one seventeenth of all the electricity generated in France, and more

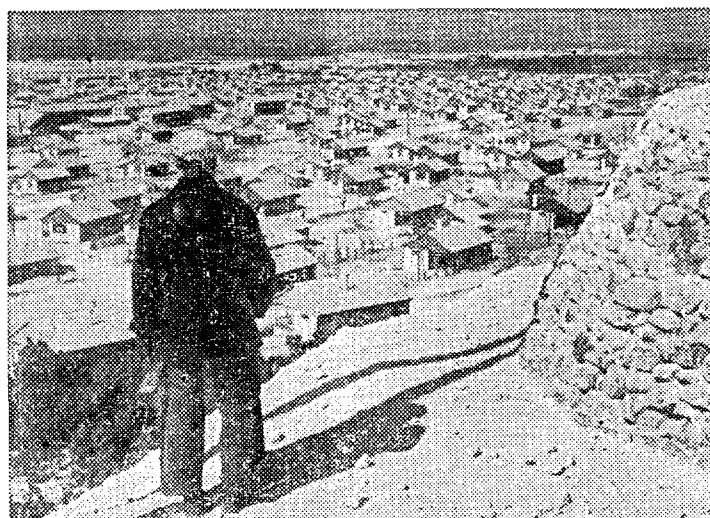
DONZÈRE-MONDRAGON is only one of several similar gigantic schemes to harness the Rhône. When they are completed these schemes will make the river not only what Frenchmen, but shippers in other lands want it to be—a long stairway of calm water descending step by step to the sea. Its hydro-electric stations will provide more electricity than the mighty Tennessee Valley Authority in America.

But Donzère-Mondragon itself has been the greatest French achievement since the war, and well might President Auriol say on opening it:

"On the morrow of a war that crippled her in every limb, ruined materially and financially, France conceived and performed this titanic task; she has, therefore, not lost her energy, her technical skill, her will power, or her moral fibre."



Above: a giant dredger. Right: one of the five temporary towns which were built for the workmen



Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars · London · E.C.4
MARCH 14.....1953

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS

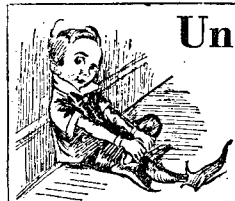
SOMEONE has said of television that it sacrificed what is perhaps broadcasting's greatest asset—the listener's imagination.

Sir Alexander Korda has been expressing a similar sentiment about the new three-dimensional films. His generation, and the generations before, this eminent film-maker points out, had to rely entirely on imagination to "see" the tales of their childhood.

These views reflect the growing sense of uneasiness about the effect of technical marvels on young folk; there is widespread fear that they may cause the younger generation to turn their backs on the good old habit of reading and the equally-important one of making their own recreations.

INVENTIONS are only good if we make good use of them. In our precious hours of leisure we should be stimulated and inspired—not lulled to sleep by entertainment "on tap" which requires little or no effort on our own part. There may one day be a heavy price to pay for such easy amusement.

As for 3-D films, they will come, for better or for worse; what matters is that they should be good films. A bad film, as Sir Alexander reminds us, will be none the better for being bad in three dimensions.



Under the Editor's Table

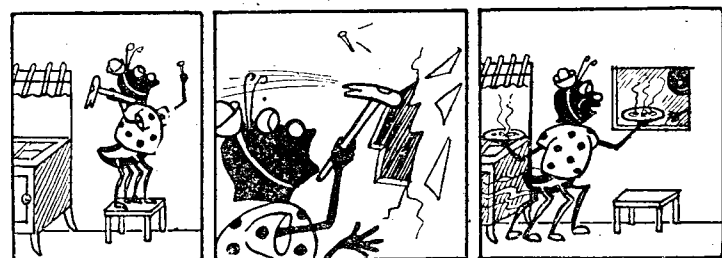
PETER PUCK
WANTS TO
KNOW

If clerical
errors are made
by clergymen

Some children have to travel 18 miles to school. The sort that will go far.

Parrots are no longer to be brought into this country. But we shall still hear parrot cries at elections.

BILLY BEETLE



The Editor's Table

With a song and a smile

SONG-WRITERS ought to be happy people—they give such a vast amount of pleasure to others!

This thought occurred to us on learning of the death of Fred Godfrey, who wrote many songs which have been sung down the years—songs like Take me back to Dear Old Blighty, which expressed not only the soldier's home-sickness, but his cheerful endurance of it.

Fred Godfrey made no fortune from his songs; but he made enough to live on, and was content to let wealth pass him by so long as he could help to make the world sing and forget its cares.

With him, as with the great Dr. Johnson, "cheerfulness was always breaking in."

Fishermen of Britain

MOST of us do not know enough about the grand work of our tough trawlermen, and for this reason alone we have been delighted to see a new chart, which with amusing little pictures shows at a glance where the trawlers fish, what they catch, and how they catch it. It also gives graphic answers to such questions as: How big is a trawler? How is the catch kept fresh at sea?

A fine example of the art of explaining things simply, the chart has been sent to 6000 public, grammar, and secondary schools by the British Trawlers' Federation, and they are to be congratulated on the idea. It should be in every school—it is cheap at 5s.

Other industries which play a vital part in Britain's economy—oil, steel, coal-mining, cotton—might well adopt this way of bringing home to young people the many aspects of their vital work.

TAXING THEIR BEAUTY

A GROUP of American mannequins asked the United States income tax authorities if they could claim an allowance for deterioration in their personal beauty through "age, exhaustion, obsolescence, or otherwise."

The tax commissioners gently rejected the claim, adding courteously, "American beauty never becomes obsolete."

Representing Youth



Peter Clegg, 17, of Stoke-on-Trent, has been chosen to attend the Coronation as the representative of the National Association of Boys' Clubs. Peter, who is apprenticed as a joiner, is here seen at work.

No change

IT is clear that America under President Eisenhower intends to continue that support for the work of the United Nations which was a feature of Mr. Truman's administration.

This is obvious from the words of Henry Cabot Lodge, the new U.S.A. permanent representative at the United Nations:

"I think that if we did not have it [the United Nations] today, people with goodwill throughout the world would be at this moment working to create what we have now."

"I think it can do big things in future and it will be my aim as U.S. Representative here to do what I can to continue to build it into an organisation that will be a means through which just and durable peace will be established."

These words will reassure men and women of goodwill everywhere.

Thirty Years Ago

A LONDON merchant sent an English pound note to a former confidential clerk in Vienna, and in reply received a letter of thanks in which the clerk said the note's value in Vienna was £200, and with it he had bought his house.

CAMBRIDGE has come into line with Oxford and the great modern universities by granting degrees to women.

From the Children's Newspaper, March 17, 1923

Campaign against ugliness

THE Council for Visual Education is displaying 12 of its School Exhibitions (created to be shown in schools and elsewhere), at the London County Hall until March 14.

Each exhibition shows photographs of bungalows, council houses, cottages, architecture of different periods, furniture, glass, pottery, old buildings, and town planning.

The Council hopes that as many teachers as possible will go to the County Hall, and suggests that arrangements should be made for classes to visit the exhibition and thereby learn the importance of good design and its place in the lives of us all.

Horse-sense

SCIENTISTS of the University of California seem to have proved that there is no reasonable basis for the expression "to eat like a horse."

Dobbin is not greedy, they say, adding that a horse relatively consumes far less food than a human being.

In the course of a year a horse eats about eight or nine times his own weight of food, whereas the average man eats sixteen times his weight in the same period.

We have known schoolboys, and schoolgirls, who seem to eat several times their own weight in food in the course of a week. Perhaps the expression should be "to eat like a schoolchild."

Untiring letter-writer

THOSE of us who find it hard to write a letter—even to a kind aunt who has remembered our birthday—must stand dismayed by the feat of Voltaire.

This great Frenchman wrote no fewer than 30,000 letters during his life, and they have been gathered together by a British author and bibliographer, Mr. Theodore Besterman, who is to publish an annotated edition of them in English.

Three volumes of these letters are expected to appear shortly, but the complete edition will require 60 volumes.

THINGS SAID

WE know how much education costs. What we cannot calculate is the cost of ignorance.

Mr. Arthur Bottomley, M.P.

EVERY available room at the Mansion House has been handed over for the work . . . I still have to clamber over tables and desks to get to bed.

Lord Mayor of London, commenting on contributions to the Flood Fund

FOR a child there can be no greater deprivation than to be denied the advantage of a good home with his own parents, and it should be the aim of children's homes to make good this loss as far as is possible.

The Home Secretary

PARENTS should realise that a grammar school career to-day does not terminate at the age of 16. It should be regarded as a course going on to 18 or 19.

Headmaster of Colchester Royal Grammar School

NOBODY can say we are down and out when we are scooping the world in aircraft.

Secretary of State for Air

IT is enormously important that you should be really happy in your work, but I do not mean that you should be happy all the time, because no job that is worth doing is fun all the time. There are long stretches of difficulty and boredom in even the most exciting jobs.

Lady Ogilvie, at Clare Hall County Secondary School, Halifax

Those who scale the heights

He who ascends to mountain-tops shall find

The loftiest peaks most wrapt in clouds and snow;

He who surpasses or subdues mankind,

Must look down on the hate of those below.

Though high above the sun of glory glow,

And far beneath the earth and ocean spread,

Round him are icy rocks, and loudly blow

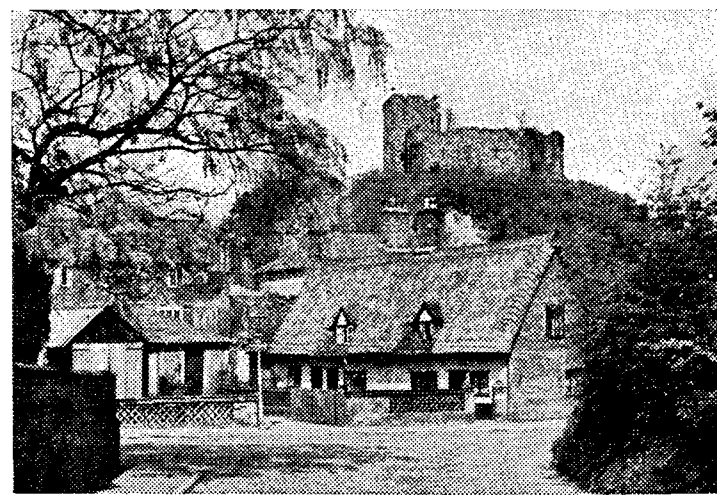
Contending tempests on his naked head,

And thus reward the toils which to those summits led. Byron

DATE FOR MARCH 15

On Mothering Sunday above all other

Every child should dine with its mother. Old Northants saying



OUR HOMELAND

Eye Castle, Suffolk, seen from a corner of the village

The Children's Newspaper, March 14, 1953

ERIC GILLET recommends Royal Heritage, illustrating the . . .

BACKGROUND TO THE CORONATION

ROYAL HERITAGE is a superb example of British documentary film-making at its best and most impressive. The colour is excellent and the fine commentary written by Dermot Morrah is rendered by the rich voice of Robert Donat.

Specially made for Coronation year, this picture ranges over many of the preparations for the great event.

From the Royal mews, where carriages and horses are being prepared, to the Tower of London, where the Regalia is kept until it is taken, carefully guarded by the Yeomen of the Guard to Westminster Abbey, the camera ranges under expert direction.

This picture shows that the forms to be followed at the ceremony in June are mostly the same

most convincing account of war conditions in the Junior Service that I have seen.

Philip Leacock has directed it with an accurate eye for detail, and he has been helped by the unaffected screenplay by John Woolridge and Robert Westerby.

The action takes place during one month in 1943. At the beginning Wing-Commander Tim Mason (Dirk Bogarde) has made 87 bombing raids over Germany, and he wants to bring the number up to 90 before he has a rest. After some cleverly-contrived incidents and many thrills, Mason achieves his ambition.

Appointment in London—the title refers to a Buckingham Palace investiture—is a first-rate example of the feature-documentary.



Choirboys of Westminster Abbey seen in Royal Heritage

as those used a thousand years ago at the coronation of Alfred the Great, and it is in the chapel of Edward the Confessor that the ancient Coronation Chair rests.

There are pictures of the Earl Marshal of England (the Duke of Norfolk) and of the Herald's College, under whose supervision is the entire organisation of the Coronation ceremonial. Anyone who sees this picture will be better able to understand the old ideal of chivalrous dedication that lies behind the Abbey ceremony.

Ian Dalrymple, the producer of Royal Heritage, and Diana Pine, the director, are to be congratulated on a fine idea nobly executed.

THERE have been many films about the R.A.F. in wartime, but Appointment in London is the



William Sylvester and Dirk Bogarde in a scene from Appointment in London

There is clever acting by Ian Hunter, Bryan Forbes, William Sylvester, Richard Watts, and Anne Leon. Dirk Bogarde gives his best film performance as the highly-strung wing-commander.

THE latest Gary Cooper picture, Springfield Rifle, has a woolly and confused story about horse-riders at the time of the American Civil War, but it is a lovely thing to look at.

Cooper is as restrained and effective as he is allowed to be in a part which gives opportunities for action and little else. But the WarnerColor reproduction of the superb scenery makes this picture worth seeing.

MILITARY POLICEMEN presents Bob Hope and Mickey Rooney in the title parts, and gives Bob more chances to be funny than he has had for some time. The final sequence is a first-class piece of slapstick.

SHAKESPEAREAN ENTHUSIAST

Although she has attended more than 700 performances at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, Miss Agnes Marshall, who lives around the corner in Grove Road, is again looking forward to another Shakespearean season.

Among her Shakespearean treasures is a record book of all her attendances at the theatre. She has seen Measure for Measure 49 times.

Floods and the birds

Terns coming back this spring to their accustomed nesting-places at Norfolk sanctuaries will find them changed by the terrible sea-floods of last month.

On the little island of Scott Head, sandhills where hundreds of them nest every year have been flattened. Mr. Bob Chesney, the warden, was himself flooded out in his lonely domain of 1200 acres.

Another damaged Norfolk coast bird sanctuary is at Blakeney, where the terns' nesting-place has disappeared.

The floods brought tragedy for some 200 bearded tits resident at the Minsmere Reserve on the Suffolk coast, which is maintained by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Bearded tits—so-called because the cock has drooping moustache-like stripes beside his beak—breed in Britain only in this region.

FEW SURVIVORS

They live among the reeds, and at Minsmere were nearly all drowned in their nests or carried out to sea. The few which survived may be finding that the sea-water has killed the insects which are their food.

At Havergate Island in Suffolk, where the avocet has returned to breed in recent years, more than a million gallons of water swept across the nesting area. The warden, Mr. Reg Partridge, has been working hard to drain it and to repair the 26 breaches in the sea wall.

It is hoped, however, that the avocets will return there, as they like sea-water better than fresh.

Terns, fortunately, are adaptable birds and they may be expected to build their nests on the shingle. Mr. Hubert Smith of the National Trust told a CN correspondent.

BAD HABIT

Getting flooded out is not a new experience for some of them that have a bad habit of siting their nests too close to the water. A former warden at Scott Head used to save many chicks from drowning by stealthily moving nests little by little to a place above high-water mark.

It is possible that the changes wrought by the floods on the East Anglian coast may attract some birds which formerly bred in Norfolk but were driven away by drainage schemes. Among these, said Mr. Hubert Smith, might be the ruff, godwit, and black tern.

The floods in Holland may also send some of these long-lost friends back to us.

BRIGHTER KING'S CROSS

King's Cross Station in London is having its brickwork and tower thoroughly cleaned for the first time since it was opened 100 years ago. The inside of the station is also to be cleaned in time for the Coronation.

Altogether 12,000 square yards of brickwork will be treated, 7000 panes of glass in the roof will be washed down, and 30 tons of paint used to brighten the building.

Let THE HUT MAN be your guide to Nature's . . .

HIDDEN HAUNTS



3. In the corner of a meadow in March

DAYS are often blustery at this time of year, as though spring were struggling for release from the last, loosening grip of winter.

March, however, can bring days both warm and calm, when in sheltered corners of the countryside we can be confident of encountering many wild creatures—wide-awakes who have been active throughout winter and are now settling to home-making and nursery duties, or sleepy-heads just awakening to the mild beckoning of spring.

Let us enter a meadow on such a day and find a secluded corner, screened perhaps by an old grey-stone wall or fringe of broom, where the turf is short and dry and rocky. The rest of the meadow may appear deserted as we sit here quietly, but in our own little corner there is plenty to be seen . . . if we have learned to observe, and to concentrate on what is close at hand.

The foot of the old wall is edged with a golden ribbon of coltsfoot, soon to become a festoon of fluffy grey seed-heads; and there, by the gate, is a tangle of errant chickweed, its wandering stems decorated with star-like flowers. No need to fear rain while these barometers are widespread; they will warn us by closing when showers are on the way.

BIRD life may not be abundant in the corner we have chosen, but with broom or furze bushes near at hand we should hear the yellowhammer's ditty as the male bird perches on a topmost twig, his yellow head glistening in the sunlight. Over and over he tells his story of "a little bit o' bread and no cheese," yet we do not tire of the constant repetition, so skilfully blended with the surroundings that we can hear it or not as we please.

A pied wagtail may suddenly appear after a fly on the old wall, balance for a moment with bobbing (not wagging) tail, then disappear again in a flicker of black-and-white. And from farther off in the meadow, in the direction of a now proficient blackbird, comes the creaky challenge of a male partridge, like a gate's rusty hinge.

The turf on which we rest is alive with the bustle of small creatures hurrying on all-important tasks. This blundering beetle, her splendid, blue-black plate armour glittering in the sun, forces her way by sheer strength through the grass, with no time to waste as she seeks the unsavoury morsel which will nonetheless form a welcome feast for her grubs.

Raise the stone beside us and there, in a little hollow, a mother earwig hastily gathers together her seed-pearl eggs, boldly covering

them and ready to sacrifice herself in their defence. Fluttering over its shadow, a small tortoiseshell butterfly searches here and there for the first sprouting nettles. All winter she has hidden away in some sheltered nook, and now the day is all too short for her purpose . . . the placing of eggs on fresh young leaves where her caterpillars may feed on their nettle food plant.

A loud buzzing may draw our attention to where a large queen humble-bee is fussily examining every possible cranny to shelter her future colony; grains of soil and leaf-mould are swept up in the tiny whirlwind of those wings which beat a 130 times per second.

Another queen, a big resplendent black-and-gold wasp, has also come from winter retirement and is busied with the foundation of her colony. The actual site may be a hundred yards away, but in our corner she has selected the dry, withered furze stem from which she scrapes the fibre that will be chewed to pulp and finally form the strong and beautiful grey paper of her nursery's cells and walls.

So we make discovery after discovery in our corner of the meadow. To the casual rambler the meadow is a pleasant place to walk in, but its fascinating activities are unknown and undiscovered; he does not experience the pleasures of the introductions we have made among small artisans, each busied with its craft.

Let us continue to enjoy country walks, but when we sit down to rest let us then devote a while to the hardworking little creatures who selected our corner first.

Handful



Out for a stroll with seven tiny Mexican Chihuahuas is Gillian Belcher, of Chessington, Surrey. She is six, and helps to exercise and groom the dogs when they are entered for shows.

HEROINE OF THE '45

An imposing cairn to the memory of that famous heroine of the '45 Rebellion, Flora Macdonald, has just been completed at her birthplace on the island of South Uist, in the Outer Hebrides.

The cairn is built of the moss-covered stones of the ruined shieling where she was born, and later a Gaelic plaque will be added.

Flora Macdonald probably saved the life of Bonnie Prince Charlie when, after his defeat at Culloden in 1746, he was being hunted by the redcoats amongst the moorlands and mountains of the west of Scotland, with the price of £30,000 on his head.

NARROW ESCAPES

Poor as they were, not a Highlander would betray him, but the prince several times narrowly escaped capture. Then Flora had the idea of passing him off as "Betty Burke, an Irish spinning-maid."

In this disguise Prince Charles travelled in company with Flora to Skye, where he was able to board a vessel which took him to France.

For this escapade Flora was put in prison, but all Scotland, and indeed London itself, rang with the fame of her exploit, and she was soon released.

A few years later she married and went to America, but she came home in 1779 and died at Kingsburgh on March 5, 1790.

TOY TROUBLE

A man near Belfast saw an aircraft crash, and rushed to the telephone. Four fire-engines, RAF mountain rescue squads, and policemen were in the area almost immediately, but found no sign of any wrecked plane.

Farm workers and motorists also joined in the search that followed; then it was discovered that what the man had seen crash was a model Tiger Moth.

Steps to Sporting Fame



Looking forward to a busy athletic season is long-jumper Shirley Cawley, of Croydon, who is employed as a clerk in the Bank of England.



When she took part in the Helsinki Olympic Games last year, Shirley wondered if she would do herself justice on account of lack of sleep—it was dark in Finland then only for about two hours.



These fears proved groundless. In the qualifying rounds her jump of 18 feet 9½ inches beat the existing record. In the final she jumped 19 feet 5 inches—but this earned her only third place.



During the winter she has turned her attention to the high jump, but her first love is still her best love. Like many other famous women athletes, Shirley is also a fine netball player.

BUTCHER'S BOY WHO BECAME AN ADMIRAL

The very name of Admiral Benbow, who was born on March 10 just 300 years ago, carries with it the tang of the sea.

But John Benbow did not spring from a seafaring family. He was the son of a Shrewsbury tanner, and tradition has it that he began his working career as an apprentice to a local butcher.

We know little of John Benbow's early life at sea. He probably served in merchant ships, and he must have shown ability, for in 1678 he joined H.M.S. Rupert as master's mate.

It was probably the influence of his first captain, Arthur Herbert, later Earl of Torrington, that led to Benbow's rapid promotion to be master of the Nonsuch. That same influence was later to gain him further promotion, leading to the important office of master attendant at Deptford Dockyard—but not until 1689, and in the meantime John Benbow got into trouble.

His tongue was his undoing; he never controlled it with the skill which he showed in handling ships.

After the Nonsuch had captured an Algerine pirate which had pre-

viously beaten off an attack from H.M.S. Adventure, John Benbow foolishly repeated a rumour that the Adventure's captain had shown cowardice. This indiscretion led to a court-martial, and in the end Benbow had to make a public apology on the deck of the flagship and forfeit three months' pay.

He spent the next eight years in merchant ships. During part of the time he sailed on the Levant trade in his own ship, which he proudly called The Benbow.

BACK TO THE NAVY

He returned to the Navy in time to play an important part in the wars against the France of Louis XIV. His shore appointment at Deptford did not stop him from serving as Master of the Fleet to Torrington in the defeat at Beachy Head in 1690. Two years later he helped Lord Russell to regain England's sea supremacy at Cap de la Hague.

Benbow was in command when a flotilla of fireships and vessels loaded with explosives were sent to attack a French invasion fleet gathering in the Channel ports.

But attacks on Le Havre, Dunkirk, and other ports were not entirely successful, and the plan was abandoned.

That no blame was attached to Benbow was shown by his rapid promotion to rear-admiral and his subsequent appointments to important sea-going commands. It was as Commander-in-Chief of the West Indies station that he died of wounds suffered in one of the most humiliating battles in our history.

An order to attack a French force of only moderate strength was disobeyed by some of Benbow's captains. With his three loyal ships, he fought gallantly, continuing to direct the fight even after he had lost a leg. Only a written demand from his defaulting captains obliged him to withdraw to Jamaica. There he died on November 4, 1702.

Two of the captains were later shot after a court-martial held in H.M.S. Bristol in Plymouth Sound. A third died before the trial. All the officers concerned were men whose previous records were excellent, and the cause of their refusal to fight remains a mystery.

THE QUEEN'S CHAMPION

One of the most ancient offices performed at the Coronation will be the bearing of the Standard of England in Westminster Abbey by the Queen's Champion, or Hereditary Grand Champion of England.

This duty will be performed by Captain John Lindley Marmion Dymoke, who is 26 and over six feet tall. His family have had the honour of providing Champions of England since the Middle Ages.

In those days the Champion, in complete armour, rode into Westminster Hall at the Coronation on the second-best charger in the king's stables, and dared anyone to deny or gainsay the right of the king to the crown.

THE CHALLENGE

He proclaimed that any person doing so was a liar and a traitor, which he would prove by meeting the other in single combat on any appointed day. The Champion repeated his challenge three times and then threw down his gauntlet, but there is no record of his ever having to engage anyone in combat.

The first to hold this office was Robert, or Roger Marmion, on whom it was conferred in 1066 by William the Conqueror. With it went the castle of Tamworth and the manor of Scrivelsby in Lincolnshire, the ancestral home of the Dymokes.

The Dymoke family became hereditary Champions in 1350, when Sir John Dymoke married a great granddaughter of Philip Marmion.

HAPPY AS SANDBOYS

Three Australian students returning home from Britain have made the first 7600 miles of the trip in a London taxi.

Their route took them through the Sahara Desert, where they had to dig the taxi out of the sand 16 times.

THE CORAL ISLAND—R. M. Ballantyne's story of the South Seas, told in pictures (8)

Jack, Ralph, and Peterkin had set out in the schooner on a chivalrous mission. They were anxious to save a native girl they knew, Avatea, from being forced to marry a man chosen for her by the chief, Tararo. Ralph had

heard of her predicament during his voyage with the pirates. The boys had previously rescued both Ayatea and Tararo from their enemies when savages had visited Coral Island, and now they hoped to persuade Tararo to

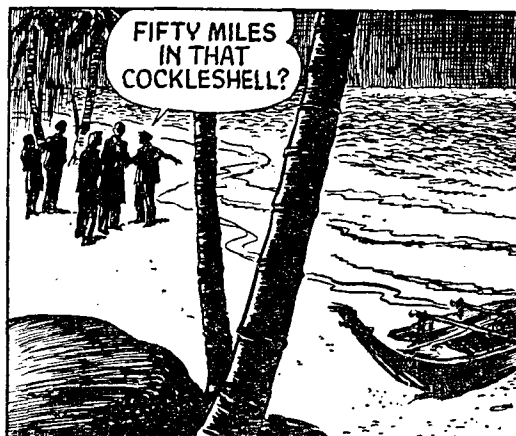
let Avatea marry whom she would. Ralph had also heard there was a small Christian community at the south end of Tararo's island, and they decided to go there first. Sailing the ship was hard work but grand fun.



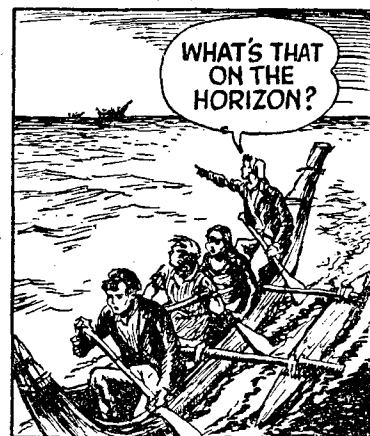
YOU ARE HEARTILY WELCOME, GENTLEMEN!



REMEMBER HIM THAT I SAVED HIS LIFE!



FIFTY MILES IN THAT COCKLESHELL?



WHAT'S THAT ON THE HORIZON?

When they reached the Christian village, the native teacher came aboard. He could speak English and he told them that Tararo was hostile to Christians. Avatea, a Christian, who had been captured at Samoa, was in love with a Christian chief. But Tararo had resolved that she should marry a friend of his. The teacher could not hold out much hope for the success of the boys' mission, but promised to do his best to persuade Tararo to release Avatea.

The boys went ashore with the teacher. Tararo welcomed his former rescuers, but was annoyed at Jack's request. Jack lost his temper and challenged Tararo's men to "come on." The teacher induced him to drop his club and Tararo, angry now, ordered the boys to remain at the village for three days while he made up his mind about them.

The teacher was able to arrange for Avatea to meet him and the boys in a secluded spot at night. He said that Tararo had promised Avatea to a more powerful chief than himself, and was afraid to change his mind. He told the boys they could not escape in their schooner because Tararo's men were watching it closely. He urged the four of them to escape in a canoe to the island of Avatea's lover, 50 miles away. Avatea was eager to go, and the boys agreed to the plan.

Secretly they stocked the little canoe with provisions and water, and hid it. The next night Avatea met them and, unseen, they paddled away from Tararo's island. By the following morning they were out of sight of it. But later Jack caught sight of what looked like a large war canoe. It was coming swiftly in their direction!

Is this strange craft one of Tararo's war canoes in pursuit of the fugitives? See next week's instalment

The Children's Newspaper, March 14, 1953

THE SILKEN SECRET

by Geoffrey Trease

Dick Arlington, an 18th-century boy, is staying with Celia Mount at her uncle's silk mill in Derbyshire. A mysterious Italian, Foscari, has followed Mr. Mount on a mission of revenge. He kidnaps Celia and takes her to a cave, where her escape is cut off by an underground river. She manages to send out a message in a bottle, and a rescue party is organised.

14. End of the secret

CELIA, meanwhile, remained a prisoner in the far corner of the great cavern. The torrent, swirling down its channel, made an impassable barrier across the rock floor. Anyone entering those frothy waters would have been whisked away in the twinkling of an eye and hurled down the cascade. She had seen what had happened to the leather bottles containing her messages. The memory still made her shudder.

Candle in hand, she had examined the rocky walls behind her. They were sheer and unbroken. She was a prisoner there until Foscari chose to replace the planks across the river.

Time passed. She had no means of telling how long, save that the first candle guttered out, and she lit the second. She sat on the rock, huddled in the blanket they had left her, and prayed that at least one of the bottles had found its way safely down to the mill. When she could bear the loneliness and suspense no longer she shouted across to the Italian, whom she could see moving about in the gloom:

"Is it morning yet? How long have we been here?"

"Oh, yes, signorina! The sun is shining outside. I have just been out to look for our friend Signor Holsworth. He should be back by now with the news of what is happening."

A few more minutes passed. Then heavy footsteps were heard. Celia grew tense. Even Foscari stood in an attitude of acute attention, and she caught the gleam of a pistol in his hand.

BUT it was Jem Holsworth. He came out of the gloom pale-faced and shouting. Celia caught his words above the roar of the river, and her heart gave a bound.

"We got to get out o' here, Foscari! There's no time to lose, or we'll be surrounded!"

"Surrounded? What do you mean?"

The Italian woman also came out of the darkness, pouring out a flood of questions in her own tongue. But the one-time miner ignored her, and addressed himself to her brother.

"I were near caught meself, comin' back! Half the town is out—I tell ye, t' moor's crawling wi' men. An' comin' this way!"

"They cannot know where we are!"

"They know a' reet, mester. An' they'll ave us, if we don't shift out o' here—we'll be trapped."

"But where can we go?" demanded Foscari frenziedly.

"Up ower Rampstone Edge. An' then through t' bogs. I know a safe path through t' peat-mosses—we can still fox 'em, if we're quick."

"The planks then! Fetch the signorina!"

"Nay, we'll not mak' it if we cumber ourselves wi' her—"

"We take her, I say." Foscari was once more in command of the situation. "Is all our work to be wasted because of your fears? So long as we have her, we can still win the game."

Sulkily Holsworth helped him to thrust the two planks across the

TUESDAY ADVENTURE

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Begins on this page next week

channel. Celia was on her feet again, keyed up with hope. One of her messages must have got through, and help was near. If only she could delay Foscari a little longer!

"Will you come, signorina—or must we fetch you?" Foscari's cold voice rang through the cavern.

"I will come by myself," she called back haughtily. Better to let them take her willingly as far as the cave-mouth. Gathering up the crumpled skirts of her ball dress, she stepped on to the make-shift bridge.

SATISFIED that she was coming,

Foscari followed his sister, who had already started for the cave-mouth. He called over his shoulder to tell Holsworth to bring the signorina along.

"I'm none so daft," muttered Holsworth. "One woman's enough. If we tak' t' lass as well, we're done for." And with a swift glance to make sure that Foscari was not looking back, he stooped and gripped the right-hand plank.

Halfway across, Celia saw the murder in his eyes. She was

just in time to transfer her weight to the other plank as the first went hurtling into the water. For a hideous second she almost lost her balance, but with an effort she recovered it and flung herself to safety.

Safety! Holsworth thrust out a brawny arm and gripped her like a doll. "That'll not help ye," he laughed above the mad bubbling of the river. "Yon Foscari will think ye slipped—"

Crack!

The flash of the pistol was reflected on a thousand crystal stalactites. The echo of the explosion went rolling round the cavern as though in a cauldron indeed.

Holsworth cried out, more in surprise than pain. Celia sprawled sideways, clawing and scrabbling with her fingers against the slippery rock. For the second time she faced the agonising knowledge that she was falling into the hurly-burly of the waters, but a hand fastened on her dress stopped that sickening downward slide, and pulled her back to safety.

Panic-stricken footsteps were fading down the passage to the cave-mouth. Dick's voice was panting in her ear: "He's only scratched—I was afraid of hitting you my mistake. But they'll catch him outside."

WHICH they did, though Jem Holsworth did not live to stand in the dock for his share in the business, for he died of gaol-fever while awaiting trial.

The Foscari got clear of the cave-mouth before it was surrounded. They were never seen again after their figures were sighted racing over the skyline of Ramstone Edge. At first it was thought that, lacking Jem Holsworth's guidance, they had perished in the bogs. But after a few days a report from Hull showed that they had reached the coast and escaped abroad.

"Suppose they came back?" said Celia with a shiver.

"Yes," said Fazeley, looking Mr. Mount straight in the eye. "There is only one thing to do, sir, to lay this bogey for ever."

"How d'ye mean, Fazeley?"

"Your life will never be safe while this secret of the silk-throwing is locked up in your brain alone. So long as it is, Foscari—or someone else from Italy—will try to destroy you. You can remove that danger in only one way: share your secret."

"Share my secret?" Mr. Mount went red with indignation.

Fazeley smiled but stood his ground. "You took that secret from the Italians," he said quietly, "because you held it was not right for them to guard it selfishly, keeping up the price of thread to the whole world. Is it any better for you, now, to play dog-in-the-manger to the rest of England?"

For a moment it looked as though Mr. Mount's eyes would pop out of his head. Then suddenly his face relaxed and he

Continued on page 19

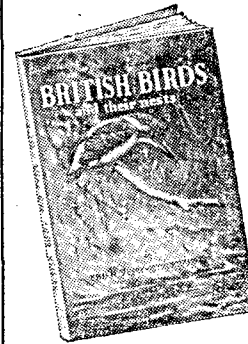
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- 3 What are isobars?
- 4 Pensive means literary, poor, or thoughtful?
- 5 Who was the only man ever to play cricket for both England and Australia?
- 6 What is an emissary?
- 7 Can you finish the proverb: Make hay while . . . ?
- 8 When was the Battle of Bannockburn?

Answers on page 12

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SPORTS SHORTS

CONGRATULATIONS to Joe Davis, the world's greatest snooker player, who recently became the first man ever to make 500 century breaks. He scored his first 100 in 1927. A pedometer test has shown that he walks about 250 yards every game.

EFFORTS are being made to include Rugby football in the Olympics programme at Melbourne in 1956. The French Rugby Federation are sending a team to tour Australia that year, and it is hoped that a full international tournament can be arranged.

W. B. L. PALMER, of Oxford University, is making great progress as a shot-putter. If height counts for anything he should do well, for he is 6 feet 6; yet he is the "midget" of the family, his father being 6 feet 8½, and his brother, former Oxford basketball Half-Blue, 6 feet 11.

DAVID SHEPPARD, the Cambridge and England cricketer, who is to captain Sussex this year, is to become a clergyman. At the end of the season he will go to Ridley Hall, Cambridge, one of the Church colleges.

PHYLLIS GREEN, 19-year-old runner of the Ilford Ladies A.C., and national cross-country cham-

pion, recently gained the Southern Counties women's title for the third year in succession.

SISTERS will be in the England team which meets Belgium in the hockey international at Wembley on Saturday. They are Beryl and Vera Chapman, of Kingston, Surrey. The former has been reserve goalkeeper for several seasons. It is expected that more than 40,000 schoolgirls will see the match.

FOLLOWING Oxford's successful Rugby tour of Japan last year, Cambridge is also to send a team. The tour, which will take place in September, will last a month.

AMONG the winners in the 1953 New Zealand athletic championships were three British stars who have settled there. Peter Wells won the high jump championship, Duncan Clark, former captain of Scotland's athletes, threw the hammer 162 feet 11½ inches, and Dr. Harold Moody won the shot-put and discus events.

ALL praise to Janet Morgan for winning the Women's Open Squash Rackets Championship for the fourth successive year, despite the fact that she was handicapped by the plaster jacket she is forced to wear following a back injury.

MR. MATTHEW BUSBY, manager of Manchester United and former Scottish international footballer, will spend two months this summer coaching in America.

CRICKETERS' FRIEND

Bill Ferguson—known throughout the cricket world as "Fergie"—will again accompany the Australian party on the tour of England this summer.

Since 1905 this genial Australian has travelled more than half-a-million miles as baggage-man and scorer to the world's Test teams.

In addition to his claim that he has never lost one piece of luggage, he has the details of every scoring shot in more than 170 Test matches.

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Congratulations to these two readers who have each won a bicycle for their entries in CN Competition No. 20:

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The following readers, who submitted the next-best entries, have each been awarded a 10s. note: Terry Ashdown, Sandhurst; Helen Churchill, Bristol; Pauline Day, Stourbridge; David Fairs, Worthing; Pamela Fortune, Herne Bay; Brenda Parks, South Norwood; Malcolm Rackind, Salford; Paul Ritchie, Cheadle Hulme; Rosamond Ward, Burton-on-Trent; Gillian Wilson, Eccles.

THE SILKEN SECRET

Continued from page 9

exploded in a great laugh as gusty as the air of his own moors.

"You win, Fazeley," he cried, thrusting out his hand. "I'll tell 'em. But I've got the start of 'em, and, mark my words, Mount's Mill will throw the best silk thread in England, as well as the first!"

And so, when the new mill opened a week later with a mighty waving of banners and blaring of bands, the long-guarded machinery was thrown open to inspection by all the gentry and tradesmen of the district, the first party of visitors being graciously headed by Lord Lathkill himself.

Fazeley was persuaded to remain long enough in Derbyshire to take part in these ceremonies and the banquet which followed. Then, with a promise of generous

financial backing for a new magazine he was planning, he took the London coach.

Dick did not go with him. He liked the wild Peak country—after his adventure in Cauldron Hole even Will Wirksworth admitted that, he was "a proper Peakrill"—and he saw wonderful possibilities in the expansion of the new silk industry. Mr. Mount offered him a place in the mill and a home until he grew up and married.

"Reckon I can sum up a likely lad when I see one," said the mill-owner heartily. "Eh, what's up, Celia lass?"

But Celia could not answer. She was choking with some private cause for amusement, her features hidden in a silk handkerchief.

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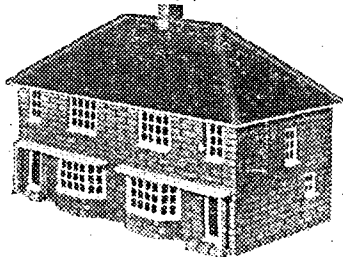
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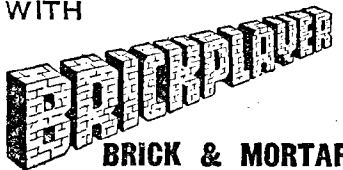
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The Children's Newspaper, March 14, 1953



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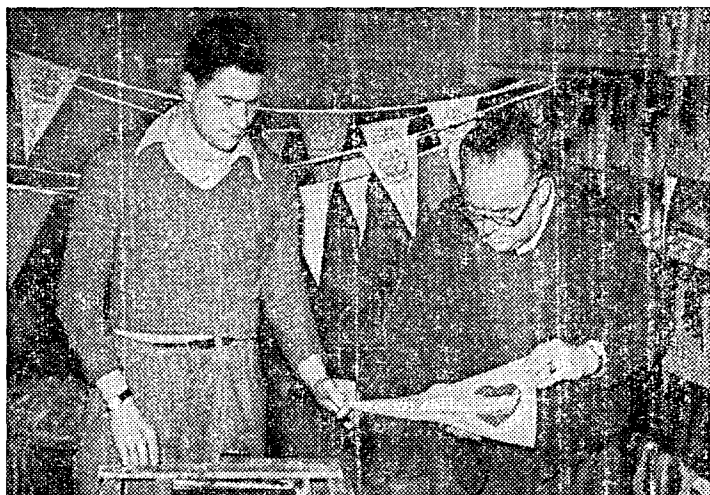
Many Scouts from the Midlands will see the Coronation Naval Review at Spithead as guests of the Gosport Scouts. Sea Scouts are to remain on ships during the week-end of the Review.

The Chief

The Paramount Chief of Barotseland, Mwanawina II, has had a seat reserved for him in Westminster Abbey for the Coronation. His uniform will include cocked hat, gold-laced coat, drum-major style gauntlets, sword, and tassels worn like a sporran. He will carry a fly whisk.

Some 200 Guides from the Dominions and Colonies will be here for the Coronation and it is hoped that all of them will have either standing room or seats on the route of the procession. The Girl Guides Association has been granted 846 standing places and 56 seats.

Between 12,000 and 15,000 policemen will line the Coronation route, and 5000 of them will come from 122 police forces in the provinces. In addition, 2000 Servicemen will line the route.



Pennants for the Coronation

Mr. Bill Parrott and his son Roy, of North Walsham, with some of the gaily-coloured pennants they make at home.

During the Queen's drives through London with the Duke of Edinburgh on June 3, 4, 8, and 9, the mayors of 27 London boroughs will be presented to her at four different town halls.

Mail to the future

A postbox that is not to be opened until the year 2003 is to be built and sealed by Woking Council in Surrey as part of its Coronation activities. The box will contain letters which have been written by people of local and national importance.

In Pakistan, June 2 is to be a public holiday. The flag of Pakistan will be flown with the Union Jack on public buildings, and the Governor-General will give a State banquet at Karachi.

Thirteen-year-old Rosalie Payne of the Southern Rhodesian Junior Red Cross has been chosen to spend a month in England as the guest of the Junior Red Cross. She is to have a seat on the route.

A young composer, Michael Toone, has written a four-part and unison Coronation song called God Bless our Queen; it is now being rehearsed by a number of schools and choral societies. Another popular song for the occasion is Heritage, by Arthur Benjamin. Elgar's Coronation Ode, written for the crowning of Edward VII, has been adapted for this year's celebrations.

Elizabethan clock

Now on view at the Crown Jewellers in London is a fine adaptation of an Elizabethan clock, made specially for Coronation year by some of the best clock-makers in Britain. It is based on an original by Bartholomew Newsam, who had an appointment to Queen Elizabeth I.

The Tokyo newspaper, Nainichi, has offered a prize of 100,000 yen (about £850) for the best designs for postage stamps to mark the Crown Prince Akihito's visit to London for the Coronation.

STAMP NEWS

THE St. Edward's Crown will replace the Tudor Crown on a new Cayman Islands stamp bearing the Queen's portrait.

To stimulate the exchange of letters between boys and girls of different countries, Australia has issued a special stamp for the purpose.

THE marriage next month of Luxembourg's Grand Duke Jean and Belgium's Princess Josephine-Charlotte will be celebrated by six Luxembourg issues bearing their portraits.

A TRAFFIC exhibition at Munich and an agricultural exhibition at Rome will both be marked by new stamps.

STAMPS with a special surcharge to give relief to flood victims are being issued in Holland and Denmark.

A NEW United States stamp marks the 150th anniversary of Ohio, the 17th State.

NEW portraits on stamps: Walter Dewe, wartime Belgium resistance leader, and the Austrian composer Hugo Wolf



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THE BRAN TUB

HIDDEN PLAYERS

The names of four Liverpool footballers are hidden in the following paragraph. Can you find them?

"THESE small amber trinkets are lovely," said Ann. "They do not appear expensive either. Would you please put them aside for me and I will pay next time I call. I cannot stay; Lorna Doone is showing at the cinema and I am late now."

Answers next week

FAMILIAR TREES

GOAT willow, or sallow, seldom grows more than 20 feet high, though it may sometimes top 30 feet.



The stem is sturdy, without being really thick, and is covered with grey bark. The ovate, dull, grey-green leaves are smooth above, but the undersides are covered with white down.

In early spring the silvery buds known as "pussy willows" or "palm" appear, turning to gold as they swell. These are male catkins; the female catkins lack the golden-dusted anthers. Young shoots can be used for wickerwork and hurdle making.

BEDTIME CORNER

Mr Portly's Guest

ONE day when Mr. Portly came in from his after-dinner run he found a smooth-haired tabby kitten lying in his place before the sitting-room fire.

"Hi! Move over!" cried Mr. Portly, blowing out his fur and advancing determinedly.

"Now, now, Mr. Portly," chided Ann, picking up the kitten. "This is Mink. He is staying with you while his Mummie is away, so you must be kind to him."

Unfortunately Mr. Portly did not quite understand all she said, and he minded very much when she nursed Mink, while he himself was left on the hearthrug. So he went out to grumble to Tinkle.

"Mark my words," said Tinkle. "He's come for good. You'll never have a place to call your own. You must show you don't like him, and then they'll send him away."

But the dodges and tricks Tinkle suggested for showing this sounded so mean that Mr. Portly decided just to keep out

of Mink's way. "Then I shan't see Ann petting him," he said.

Soon Ann realised that Mr. Portly's feelings were hurt, while Mink was too scared of him to speak. "I wish they would make friends," Ann sighed.

Then, one morning, Mr. Portly came along the hall to find Mink trying to open the sitting-room door by scrabbling under it with his paw.

At last Mr. Portly could stand it no longer. "That's no good," he said gruffly. "That's the way to open the door from inside. From outside you do it like this." And, walking up to it, he stood up on his hind legs and lent his front paws on it. At once his weight pushed the door open.

"How kind you are!" cried Mink.

After that, of course, Mr. Portly had to show he was kind, and not the gruff pussy that Mink had thought him, and they quickly made friends.

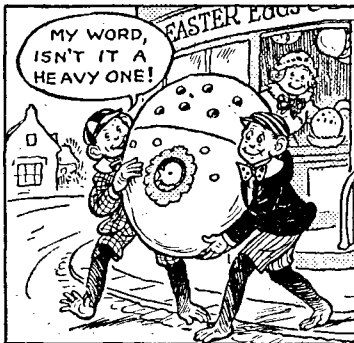
JANE THORNICROFT



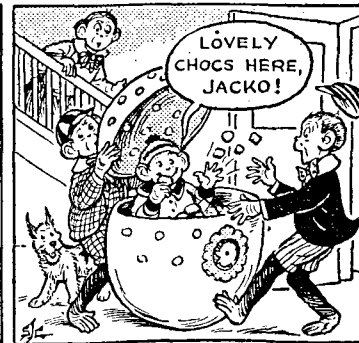
BABY JACKO MANAGED TO GET THERE FIRST



Jacko and Chimp bought early to make sure of their Easter egg.



In high glee they carried off their great store of chocolates.



But they found that they were almost too late, after all.

Double meaning

The two missing words are pronounced in the same way, but have different meanings. Can you find what they are?

THE — was well loaded with good things to eat, Aunt Dot put it down and then said:

"The — is a bad one, his character's weak.

He takes after his Great Uncle Ned."

Try, then!

Gripping tale

CRIED an anxious young rider from Chale,

"They told me my horse would not fail

To get back tonight.

Well, it's true that he might, But at present I'm holding his tail."

Bargain

"WOULD you mind settling your bill now, sir? We're closing," said the waiter.

"But I haven't been served yet," protested the diner.

"Oh, very sorry, sir. In that case there'll only be the cover charge."

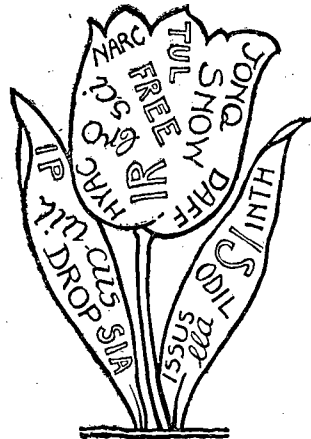
What am I?

IN early spring I may be found On banks or in the wood, But I would like it understood I'm not the precise flower I sound.

Answer next week

Find the flowers

To find the names of the flowers add one of the groups of letters in the flower to a group in one of the leaves.



Narcissus, tulip, daffodil, hyacinth, Freesia, jonquil, crocus, snowdrop, scilla.

CHAIN QUIZ

Solutions to the following clues are linked, the last two letters of the first answer being the first two of the second, and so on.

1. Largest city of Natal; has a harbour many square miles in extent and is one of the leading ports of South Africa.

2. Tiny republic, surrounded by mountains, on the French-Spanish frontier; it has been independent for over a thousand years.

3. Name of several kings of ancient Egypt; the most famous of whom was also known as Ozymandias. He reigned for 67 years and had a 92-foot granite statue of himself erected.

4. One of the Home Counties; partly bordered by the Thames and the North Sea.

Answer next week

SPOT TED

Ted is a busy lad—here, there, and everywhere. Each line of the following verse suggests a word or words which end with his name—TED. How many can you spot?

PERMISSION was given to dance on the lawn
By the colonel, who once used to hunt with the Quorn.
The dancing commenced at eight-thirty precisely,
And fairy lamps lit up the scene very nicely.

Answers next week

Silly Billy

"I've blown and blown," puffed little Bill,
"But neither horn will play a note."
Which was not odd, because the horns
Were fixed to Bill's pet Billy Goat.

YOUNG QUIZ—Answers

- 1 Apsley House, Hyde Park Corner, once the home of Wellington.
- 2 It stretched from the Scottish Clyde to the Mersey.
- 3 Lines on weather charts showing areas having the same atmospheric pressures.
- 4 Thoughtful.
- 5 W. E. Midwinter, in the 1880s.
- 6 A person sent on a mission, sometimes a secret one.
- 7 ... the sun shines.
- 8 In 1314.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Hidden places, Swansea.
Chain Quiz. Plutarch, Chatham, Ampère, Reynolds.
Hidden players. Heath, Ryan, Allen, Lee.

REASSURED
EDGE SITE
AMINLET A
PALU EEAR
REDRESS
SEAREPS
NATO OAST
TEVICTO
PINE HELP



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the word for Toffee

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